

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants request that the Examiner enter the amendment and reconsider the application in view of the following remarks.

The Amendments

The amendment to the specification merely corrects an obvious typographical error. As this amendment adds no new matter to the application, Applicants earnestly solicit entry thereof.

The amendment to the claims is supported by the specification as filed, particularly at page 18, line 6, through page 19, line 8, and in Fig. 6. As the amendment adds no new matter to the application, Applicants earnestly solicit entry thereof.

The amendments to the drawings merely correct obvious typographical errors and a minor informality. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter is added to the application by these amendments and earnestly solicit entry of these amended drawings.

The amendment to the Abstract corrects the formal error identified in the Office Action. This amendment is supported throughout the specification, particularly at page 18, line 6, to page 19, line 8. As this amendment adds no new matter to the application, Applicants earnestly solicit entry thereof.

The drawings were objected to for various formalities that now have been obviated by submission of corrected drawings. Therefore, Applicants traverse these objections.

The specification was objected to in view of a clear typographical error at page 1, line 25. As that error has been corrected by amendment herein, Applicants respectfully traverse this objection.

Remarks

Text at page 2, line 1 of the specification also was objected to. The Examiner has suggested that a number is missing before "MHz" in the phrase "has repetition rates on the order of MHz." Applicants respectfully traverse this objection, as there is no error in this text. Rather, the description of the conventional laser depicted in Fig. 10B is intended to inform the reader only that the repetition rates of this system are "on the order of MHz," i.e., approximately or in the range of MHz. As there is no error in this text, Applicants respectfully traverse the objection.

Claims 1-7 and 9-11, all claims pending, were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶2, as indefinite, and in view of prior art. Those claims have been cancelled in favor of new claim 12. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 12 is fully supported by the specification, particularly at page 18, line 6, to page 19, line 8, and in Fig. 6, and thus introduces no new matter to the application. Applicants earnestly solicit entry of this amended claim.

Applicants have entered new claim 12, which clearly sets forth method steps for generating short-pulse laser light in non-functional language that is clear in scope and particularly points out and distinctly claims the subject matter Applicants regard as the invention.

The invention is directed to a method for generating ultra-short pulse amplified Raman laser light. Short pulse laser light is amplified and passed into a distributor, with a portion thereof introduced into a Raman oscillator to produce compressed laser light. The compressed light is introduced to a first Raman amplifier. The remainder of the short pulse laser light is introduced to a polarizer, and the reflected light is introduced into the first Raman amplifier to pump it. The light transmitted through the first Raman amplifier that has not contributed to pumping is introduced to a beam splitter to produce a second reflected light that is passed to a second Raman amplifier to pump

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that amplifier. The compressed light is amplified in the first Raman amplifier and introduced to the second Raman amplifier to further amplify it. This further amplified radiation is passed through delay lines to the beam splitter, which passes only first Stokes radiation to generate ultra-short pulse amplified Raman laser light.

Applicants respectfully submit that the cited art neither suggests nor discloses the claimed invention. Thus, as the claim now is in appropriate formal form under United States Rules of Practice, Applicants earnestly solicit allowance of the claim.

Applicants petition for a one-month extension of the response period, to and including July 27, 2003, to make this response timely filed (July 27, 2003, being a Sunday), and authorize the Commissioner to charge the required fee to our Deposit Account No. 19-0733. It is believed that no additional fees are due. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee required to enter the amendments and reconsider the application to our Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

Respectfully submitted,

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